

## **Minutes of the Health & Human Services Board & Committee**

**Thursday, November 10, 2005**

Chairs Stamsta and Farrell called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

**Committee Members Present:** Supervisors Duane Stamsta (Chair), Andy Kallin, Bill Kramer, Sandy Wolff, Barbara Roncke, and Rob Hutton. Hutton left the meeting at 3:10 p.m. **Absent:** Jim Jeskewitz.

**Board Members Present:** Citizen Members Dennis Farrell (Chair), JoAnn Weidmann, John Guy, and Dick Wutt; and Supervisors Vera Stroud, Duane Paulson, Duane Stamsta, and Barbara Roncke. **Absent:** Citizen Members Abril Medina and Michael O'Brien.

**Also Present:** Chief of Staff Lee Esler, Deputy Health & Human Services Director Don Maurer, Waukesha Housing Authority Executive Director Dave Cappon, Waukesha Housing Authority Commission Member Carroll Siefert, Senior Financial Analyst Clara Daniels, Clinical Services Manager Mike DeMares, Senior AODA Counselor Shirley Bedard, Public Health Manager Nancy Healy-Haney, Health & Human Services Director Peter Schuler, Environmental Health Manager George Morris, Parks & Land Use Director Dale Shaver, and State Division of Public Health Regional Director Robert Harris. Recorded by Mary Pedersen, County Board Office.

### **COMMITTEE AGENDA ITEMS**

#### **Correspondence**

Information on the Wisconsin County Human Services Association (WCHSA) Fall Conference on December 1<sup>st</sup> in Stevens Point was distributed. Leaflets entitled "The National Children's Study and Your Community" were also distributed.

#### **Meeting Approvals**

MOTION: Wolff moved, second by Kramer to approve attendance for any committee members wanting to attend the WCHSA Fall Conference on December 1<sup>st</sup> in Stevens Point. Motion carried 6-0.

MOTION: Wolff moved, second by Kallin to approve attendance for any committee members wanting to attend the child welfare review meeting on December 9<sup>th</sup> at the Human Services Center (see "Announcements" under Board items for more information). Motion carried 6-0.

#### **Future Agenda Items**

Stamsta said at the next committee meeting, Senior Services staff will give an educational presentation on the Medicare Prescription Drug Improvement and Modernization Act.

### **BOARD AGENDA ITEMS**

#### **Approve Minutes of 8-11-05 & 9-29-05**

MOTION: Paulson moved, second by Guy to approve the minutes of August 11<sup>th</sup>. Motion carried 8-0.

MOTION: Wutt moved, second by Weidmann to approve the minutes of September 29<sup>th</sup>. Motion carried 8-0.

### **Announcements**

Maurer said the Birth to Three review concluded yesterday and a presentation on the results will be scheduled for an upcoming meeting. The child welfare review will take place the week of December 5<sup>th</sup>. The key meeting will be held on Friday, December 9<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Human Services Center. This will include the exit interview and an overall summary of the results. All board and committee members are welcome to attend.

### **Meeting Approvals**

MOTION: Stroud moved, second by Wutt to approve attendance for any board members wanting to attend the child welfare review meeting on December 9<sup>th</sup> at the Human Services Center. Motion carried 8-0.

MOTION: Roncke moved, second by Weidmann to approve attendance for any board members who attended the Respect Seminar on November 1<sup>st</sup> at Steinhafel's. Motion carried 8-0.

MOTION: Wutt moved, second by Guy to approve attendance for any board members wanting to attend the WCHSA Fall Conference on December 1<sup>st</sup> in Stevens Point. Motion carried 8-0.

### **COMMITTEE AGENDA ITEMS**

#### **Ordinance 160-O-082: Appropriate State of Wisconsin Division of Public Health Women, Infant and Children Nutrition Program Grant Funding to the Waukesha County Department of Health and Human Services**

Healy-Haney said the WIC program has seen an upward trend in serving clients and they are seeing 2,223 per month. Overall, they serve more than 4,500 clients per year. As a result, the State has awarded the County an increased allocation of \$17,552 bringing the total to \$310,000. This will be used to pay for temporary help, interdepartmental charges, and operating expenses.

MOTION: Kramer moved, second by Wolff to approve ordinance 160-O-082. Motion carried 6-0.

### **COMBINED AGENDA ITEMS**

#### **Community Jail Reintegration Housing Issues**

Stroud introduced this subject and those present. Copies of "The Invisible Tenant: Living in Federally Assisted Housing After Prison," a Family Justice Publication, were distributed. Cappon said the Housing Authority does own some federally assisted properties in the City of Waukesha although most people get a federal rent voucher for private sector housing. In 1995, Congress passed legislation whereby if someone commits a crime in federally assisted housing they are immediately evicted without due process. Cappon said they do criminal background checks on everyone requesting assistance from the Housing Authority and those who have certain criminal histories are turned down. They are often eligible after five years of good behavior. They do have the option of providing those exiting the jail system with assistance but certain criteria would have to be in place including monitoring of these individuals with whatever

mechanisms. Perhaps they can assist people coming out of the jail that they are not assisting now.

Bedard said just in the month of October, they had 49 contacts with those in the jail and of those, 37 were homeless: 30 were male and 5 were female (2 were from Milwaukee County). Of those 37, 17 were identified with a serious mental health diagnosis. Bedard said she checks with area homeless shelters and there isn't sufficient housing for these individuals. For example, Jeremy House has 7 beds and for the month of October, 39 people did not get served and were turned away. For example, of those 39, 12 were bipolar, 10 had serious depression, 5 had psychotic disorders such as schizophrenia, and 1 had brain damage. The Salvation Army has 30 beds although this is an extremely poor atmosphere for many of these people which Bedard explained further. Without housing, these people are homeless, they may be living with old drug using friends or trading sex for a place to stay.

Stroud said there are two vacant, County-owned buildings near the Expo Center which are scheduled to be demolished. She asked Human Services staff to inform Public Works Department staff about this need and if the buildings could be saved to house mentally ill clients coming out of the jail. Here, these people could be monitored and have a place to live. Bedard said there is a housing program in Racine where staff do not live at the facility but they are available 24/7. These people were set up with services and many do very well without in-house staff.

Cappon said if a pilot program was developed, he could set aside 10 or 20 vouchers for housing assistance. These would more than likely be for those who have children. However, he needs someone else to step up with support services or social workers to provide intensive case management to these families.

Bedard said many are living on the streets and the need for housing is becoming more severe as alternate housing units have been torn down or eliminated in the City even though the number of mentally ill individuals is increasing. She added that these are people who often can't work due to felony convictions, no transportation, and / or no proper clothing. A lack of proper hygiene can also be a problem since they are often living on the street. Stamsta suggested Bedard contact the County Executive as he is the person to set the pace for programming in the County. Farrell felt this subject should be brought to the attention of the Mental Health Advisory Committee and then perhaps brought back before the board and committee for further discussion.

Kallin asked are federal funds available to pay for some of these programs? Cappon said yes but not for the entire population that Bedard deals with. Stamsta asked is the case management in place to serve these people? DeMares said generally they can provide some case management including outpatient treatment. He noted that some of these people may already be clients, others may not be. Stamsta said in summary, the programs are in place but housing is lacking.

### **Overview of Avian Flu**

Healy-Haney distributed hard copies of her PowerPoint projection. She described influenza, a contagious disease, and went on to discuss symptoms and complications which ultimately can result in death. Types A and B and the most serious and the current influenza. An endemic is what we see seasonably and there are low levels. A pandemic is an epidemic of disease worldwide and affects large numbers of people.

Healy-Haney went on to discuss the three global pandemics of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The Avian flu is a type A flu and so far there is no vaccine and no medication to prevent or cure it. There is a high mortality rate – 50% die. There have been 138 cases worldwide with 68 deaths so far. If it goes from human to human, it will take 25 days to become a global pandemic. Nine countries have had outbreaks although the United States is not one of them. A medium level Avian Flu could cause 207,000 U.S. deaths, 734,000 hospitalizations, 42 million U.S. outpatient visits, and 47 million sick U.S. citizens. To date, all cases of Avian Flu have been contracted directly from birds. Avian Flu H5N1 can infect humans, cats, and pigs.

Healy-Haney said the good news is that there have been technological advances since the 1918 Spanish Avian Flu outbreak. There is better medical care available then there was back then. The prevention isn't any better, but the medical care is. An experimental vaccine is under production and antivirals are available called Tamiflu and Relenza. People have responded to these antivirals and have survived because of them. Public Health response includes surveillance, laboratory diagnostics, influenza pandemic response plans, isolation / quarantine, and mass clinic exercising and proficiency testing.

## **BOARD AGENDA ITEMS**

### **Discuss Results of State Chapter 140 Review**

Those present were referred to a letter dated October 25, 2005 from the State Department of Health & Family Services congratulating the County's Public Health Division staff and Health & Human Services Board for demonstrating the infrastructure and program capacity to be confirmed as a Level II health department. A team from the State Division of Public Health conducted a review of the division on June 24, 2005. The results of the review showed evidence that the division meets Level I requirements, the minimum level of services allowed under State Statutes for a health department, and provided evidence of meeting additional requirements established for a Level II agency.

The letter also states that during this review, deficiencies were found and have been identified in the Level I audit tool. These deficiencies are specific to having the Environmental Health Division under the Department of Parks & Land Use, and were not overseen by the local health officer and local health department. However, the deficiencies identified as a statutory or administrative rule responsibility of the health officer, or of the local health department, can be resolved by providing the State with a signed and dated copy of the 2004 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the departments of Parks & Land Use and Health & Human Services. There is one deficiency that still needs to be addressed and it relates to the board of health's responsibility to coordinate the activities of any sanitarian employed by the governing body in the jurisdiction that the local board of health services. The State has offered to assist the County in resolving this deficiency. Healy-Haney went on to highlight the results as outlined in the State's report. These issues were discussed at length and Esler and Schuler gave history.

Schuler said their interpretation is that there is only one health board and that is the Health & Human Services Board. Shaver didn't think there were any reasons why his staff could not report to the Health & Human Services Board. He just asked that items don't be agendaized for the sake of having agenda items because of the staff time involved.

Hutton left the meeting at 3:10 p.m.

Shaver said he or his staff could certainly give periodic updates on key and emerging issues relating to public health to meet the statutory intent. They are required to report to the Land Use, Parks & Environment Committee for certain issues although there are a number of public health issues they could report on to the Health & Human Services Board. For example, communicable disease issues that relate to their licensing program. Farrell concurred. Shaver said the more communication the better and he was concerned about the Health & Human Services Board and Schuler as the health officer, having a good grasp of the issues that he is ultimately responsible for. Shaver said a component could be added to the MOU that states the Department of Parks & Land Use will submit to the Director of Health & Human Services, items for consideration by the Health & Human Services Board.

#### **Presentation of 140 Review Certificate**

Harris presented the Level II award from the Wisconsin Department of Health & Family Services stating that the Local Health Department (Public Health Division) is withstanding with the statutes set forth by the Wisconsin Legislature and administrative rule.

#### **Public Health Performance Standards**

Weidmann said a telephone conference will be held involving her, CDC staff, Healy-Haney and others to discuss what help they can provide us as well as suggestions for presenting the performance standards and making them useful but not a huge time consuming task. Weidmann said she would give an update at a future meeting. Farrell noted that this will be ongoing.

MOTION: Wutt moved, second by Roncke to adjourn the board portion of the meeting at 3:43 p.m. Motion carried 8-0.

MOTION: Kramer moved, second by Kallin to adjourn the committee portion of the meeting at 3:44 p.m. Motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew J. Kallin  
Secretary for the Committee